

Indiana Department of Education
Office of School and Community Nutrition

Snacks in After School Care Programs

Eligible Programs

1. Must be run by a school food authority that is eligible to operate the National School Lunch Program.
2. The purpose of these programs must be to provide care in after school settings. This does not mean that the programs must offer formal child care as recognized by a licensing authority. Programs must be organized to provide children with regularly scheduled activities in a setting that is structured and supervised. “Regularly scheduled” does not mean that the activity must occur daily. There must also be a way to determine that children are present on a given day, such as having a roster or sign-in sheet.
3. Eligible programs must include education or enrichment activities in organized, structured and supervised environments. It must be stressed that any extracurricular activities such as the school choir, debate team, and drama society can qualify to participate under this provision **ONLY IF** their basic purpose is to provide after school care as defined above.

It must be emphasized that under no circumstances can organized athletic programs engaged in interscholastic sports be approved as after school care programs under this provision. However, while athletic teams participating in interscholastic sports programs may not be approved, programs which include supervised athletic activity along with education or enrichment activities may participate. The key would be that they are open to all and do not limit membership for reasons other than space or security considerations, or, where applicable, licensing requirements.

Eligible Sites

The school may arrange with an outside organization to perform the daily operations of the program, but the school must retain final administrative and management responsibility for the program. The staff and facilities of the outside organization may be used as long as the school assumes full responsibility for meeting program requirements. For example, the PTA could operate the program under an arrangement with the school.

Residential child care institutions and boarding schools are eligible to operate the after school care component of the NSLP.

Reimbursement

Schools may claim reimbursement for one snack, per child, per day. Children are eligible to participate through age 18. If a student’s 19th birthday occurs during the school year, reimbursement may be claimed for snacks served to that student during the remainder of the school year.

Sites located in areas served by a school in which at least 50 percent of the enrolled children are certified eligible for free or reduced-price meals are eligible to receive reimbursement at the free rate for snacks served to all children eligible for snacks.

Sites which are not in areas served by a school in which at least 50 percent of the enrolled children are certified eligible for free or reduced-price meals, must count meals and claim reimbursement by type (free, reduced-price, and paid), and must retain on file documentation (Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals) of eligibility for all meals served free or at a reduced-price. Charges for reduced-price snacks may not exceed 15 cents, as stipulated in program regulations.

Time of Operation

Under no circumstances may snacks be reimbursed in programs operated before or during the child’s school day. Schools are not eligible to receive reimbursement on weekends or holidays, including vacation periods.

Each child's eligibility is based on when their scheduled school day ends and not on whether or not the school continues in session. For example, if a kindergarten program ends at noon but the children remain in school in a care program as described above, snacks served to these children may be reimbursed under this provision

Meal Content

For the complete Afterschool Snack meal pattern, go to the 2007 USDA "Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs" at http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Resources/FBG_Introduction.pdf on page I-15.

Record Keeping

At a minimum, school food authorities must maintain the following records for the time periods required.

- If all meals are claimed free, documentation that the school has at least 50 percent of the enrolled students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. For all other schools, documentation of free and reduced-price eligibility for all children for whom free and reduced-priced snacks are claimed.
- Price the snack unit.
- Meal count totals for schools qualifying for free reimbursement for all children; and meal counts by type for other schools.
- Documentation of individual children's attendance on a daily basis.
- Production records documenting meal pattern compliance.

Monitoring Sites

Review each after-school care program two times a year; the first review shall be made during the first four weeks that the school is in operation each school year, except that an after-school care program operating year round shall be reviewed during the first four weeks of its initial year of operation, once more during its first year of operation, and twice each school year thereafter.